

2 May 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: SNIE 12.4-60: THE SITUATION AND PROSPECTS
IN EAST GERMANY

1. This estimate was initiated by O/NE. It was felt that, an appraisal of the strengths and weaknesses of the East German regime would be useful background for discussions which might arise on the German question as a whole.

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2. No important problem was encountered in the coordination of the estimate. It should be noted that the discussion of possible Soviet troop withdrawals from East Germany is limited to consideration of their role in maintaining internal security, plus mention of the possibility that a limited withdrawal might be made for propaganda reasons. Other aspects of Soviet military policy are not discussed.

3. There are no dissents or reservations and no indication that any principal will raise any objection.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

ABBOT SMITH
Acting Chairman

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